

## **Exploring Environmentalism: A Short Sketch.**

**By: Humaira Ahmed.**

### **Introduction:**

**The environment** is everything that is around us. It can be living or non-living things. It includes physical, chemical and other natural forces. Living things live in their **environment**. They constantly interact with it and adapt themselves to conditions in their **environment**.

### **Issues Related To Environment.**

Our Mother Earth is currently facing a lot of environmental concerns. environmental issues like pollution, waste disposal and dumping, melting of Arctic and Antarctic, climate change and global warming including whole in the ozone layer, deforestation and many more effect every human, animal and nation on this planet. Over the last few decades, the exploitation of our planet and the degradation of our environment have gone up at an alarming rate. As our actions have been not in favour of protecting this planet, we have seen natural disasters striking us more often in the form of flash floods, tsunamis and cyclones.

#### **1) Pollution:**

**There are three types of pollution air pollution, water pollution and soil pollution:**

#### **Air Pollution :**

Air, water and soil take a huge number of years to recover. Industry and engine vehicle fumes are the most obvious toxins. Substantial metals, nitrates and plastic are poisons in charge of pollution. While water contamination is brought about by oil slicks, acid rain, and urban sprawl; air contamination is created by different gasses and poisons discharged by businesses and manufacturing plants and burning of fossil fuels; soil contamination is majorly created by mechanical waste that takes supplements out of the soil.

#### **Water Pollution:**

Clean drinking water is turning into an uncommon thing. Water is turning into a monetary and political concern as the human populace battles for this need. Waste from industrial and agricultural activities pollute the water that is used by humans, animals and plants. The polluted water threatens the lives of aquatic life as it causes mutations and deaths in marine life that becomes trapped in or consumes the garbage.

**Soil and Land Pollution:**

Soil pollution simply means the degradation of the earth's surface as a result of human activities like mining, littering, deforestation, industrial, construction and agricultural activities. Land pollution can have a huge environmental impact in the form of air pollution and soil pollution which in turn can have an adverse effect on human health.

**Noise Pollution:**

Noise pollution is another common form of pollution that causes temporary disruption when there is an excessive amount of unpleasant noise. Construction activities, industrialization, increase in vehicular traffic, lack of urban planning are few of the causes of noise pollution.

**2) Deforestation:**

Our woodlands create new oxygen and additionally help in managing temperature and precipitation. At present, timberlands cover 30% of the area, but wooded areas are being lost on a regular basis because people are looking for homes, food, and materials. Deforestation is a huge problem and will just continue to get worse.

**3) Melting Of Arctic And Antarctic :**

The Arctic is melting much faster than expected, and could even be ice-free in summer by the late 2030s, a report from the Arctic Council's Arctic Monitoring and Assessment Program suggests.

**4) Wasted Disposal And Dumping:**

The problem of waste dumping is very much a part of the lives of Karachites, to a point where it is considered ordinary, it is very common to see piles of trash instead of trees on roadsides and outside houses. City waste, which includes domestic, industrial, mining and agricultural by-products amongst other pollution, is often left unattended, dumped in landfills or burnt rather than disposed of in a safe manner, which is a serious threat to the local population. About 20, 000 tons of solid waste is produced every day; however, only 2,000 tons are transported to landfill sites outside Karachi. This waste is usually left on streets or dumped wherever space is available, thus destroying the appearance of the city.

**5) Population:**

as it confronts deficiency of assets like water, fuel and food. Overpopulation is one of the most important environmental issues.

## 6) **Nuclear Waste :**

Radioactive waste is a nuclear fuel that contains radioactive substance and is a by-product of nuclear power generation. The radioactive waste is an environmental concern that is extremely toxic and can have a devastating effect on the lives of the people living nearby, if not disposed of properly. Radioactive waste is considered to be harmful to humans, plants, animals and the surrounding environment.

## 7) **Loss Of Endangered Species :**

An endangered species is a group of organisms which is at risk of becoming extinct. The main reason for the loss of endangered species is environment issues. Environment issues can alter the delicate balance of an ecosystem. Relatively minor changes in temperature can allow some species to thrive, while others perish. More dramatic climate changes can lead to the melting of ice caps and glaciers, with the consequent disruption to the local ecosystems. On a worldwide basis, the resulting rise in sea levels can disrupt the ecosystems of many species.

## **Solutions:**

1: The solutions to air pollution are straightforward but they require action: quit coal, establish clear, strict air quality targets.

The most basic solution for air pollution is to end its root causes: quit coal and move away from fossil fuels, replacing them with clean renewable energy.

2: Take air quality into consideration when conducting environmental assessments for major projects; for example, flyovers and highways should be far away from residential areas.

3: Most people discard dust cloths, paper waste, synthetic materials, and wrappers in the toilet. The destructive elements of all these materials end up in lakes, rivers or oceans. Preventing from this habit can help in stopping water pollution.

4: Desist from pouring cooking oil, fat or grease down the kitchen sink. Instead, keep a jar that collects all the oils, fats and grease and discards in solid waste.

5: Government should ban the use of plastic material. Plastic leftovers such as used plastic water bottle disposable, plastic plates and plastic bags frequently end up in oceans and lakes contaminating natural habitats and destroying aquatic life.

6: Always conserve water. Play an important role in reducing water pollution by conserving water at all time. You can achieve this by ensuring the taps are always off when they are not in use.

7: Plant more and more trees.

8: Many animals live in developed areas and this means they must navigate a landscape full of human hazards. One of the biggest obstacles to wildlife living in developed areas is roads. Roads divide habitat and present a constant hazard to any animal attempting to cross from

one side to the other. So when you're out and about, slow down and keep an eye out for wildlife.

9: Shooting, trapping, or forcing a threatened or endangered animal into captivity is also illegal and can lead to their extinction. Don't participate in this activity, and report it as soon as you see it to your local state or federal wildlife enforcement office.

10: Teach your friends and family about the wonderful wildlife, birds, fish and plants that live near you. The first step to protecting endangered species is learning about how interesting and important they are.

### **Conclusion:**

To protect our nation and forthcoming nation we strongly need a training and moral guidance to preserve our Environment, and for that, we need to enhance our knowledge regarding environmental issues, so that we may further increase and disseminate awareness among masses that to preserve and protect our environment to live in Healthy Environment.